

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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R 211908Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6955

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS:CI, PINT

SUBJ: GENERAL LEIGH REAFFIRMS JUNTA GOALS

1. SPEAKING TO 3,000 GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND MILITARY CADETS DEC 20, JUNTA MEMBER GEN GUSTAVO LEIGH BLAMED POLITICIANS FOR DEMOGOGY, EXCESSIVE IDEOLOGICAL ZEALOTRY, AND MORAL LAXNESS FOR BRINGING CHILE TO ITS PRESENT "SICK" STATE, AND REAFFIRMED JUNTA'S INTENTION TO CREATE A "NEW ERA" BASED ON NATIONALISTIC AND SPIRITUAL VALUES. WHILE LEIGH SAID NOTHING ESSENTIALLY NEW, RESTATEMENT OF GOC'S BASIC THEME IS INTERESTING IN THAT IT COMES FROM JUNTA MEMBER GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS MOST ARTICULATE AND HARDEST-LINER AND AT A TIME WHEN GOC IS UNDER INCREASING INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PRESSURE TO MODERATE GOVT POLICIES. THERE IS NO HINT OF POLICY CHANGES IN LEIGH'S SPEECH. SALIENT PORTIONS FOLLOW:

2. LEIGH DESCRIBED DEMOGOGY, BASED ON DESIRE TO ACHIEVE AND RETAIN POWER AT ANY COST, AS ROOT CAUSE FOR CHILE'S ILLS. POLITICIANS PROMISING THE IMPOSSIBLE HAVE LED TO DISSATISFACTION, FRUSTRATION, ANGER, AND SEVERE SOCIAL TENSION AMONG THE PEOPLE. IDEOLOGY HAS BEEN USED BY THESE SAME POLITICIANS TO UNDERMINE HARD WORK AND DISCIPLINE, THE ONLY TRUE ROAD TO DEVELOPMENT, AND TO PROJECT THE ILLUSION THAT PARADISE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER AND WILL BE CREATED EFFORTLESSLY BY THE GOVT.

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RESULT HAS BEEN DENIGRATION OF TRUE CHILEAN NATIONAL VALUES, WEAKENING OF NATION'S MORAL FIBER, ARTIFICIAL DIVISION AMONG

CHILEANS, AND STAGNATION IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS POLITICIANS  
CHASED FOREIGN IDEOLOGICAL CHIMERAS.

3. JUNTA REPRESENTS "A DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED STYLE OF CONDUCT."  
JUNTA KNOW WHAT ITS CONSTANT GOAL IS -- CREATION OF A  
NATIONALISTIC REGIME BASED ON TRUE CHILEAN VALUES -- AND  
INTENDS TO ACHIEVE IT BEFORE RETURNING CONTROL OF COUNTRY TO  
THE POLITICIANS WHO "ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROGRESSIVE  
DESTRUCTION OF OUR COUNTRY." ECHOING PINOCHET, LEIGH EMPHASIZED  
JUNTA IS NOT A TRANSITION BETWEEN TWO CIVILIAN POLITICAL  
GOVERNMENTS BUT IS THE START OF A "NEW ERA," "A GREAT RENOVATING  
SURGE" IN CHILEAN HISTORY BASED ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND SPIRITUAL VALUES. LEIGH CONCLUDED WITH  
A CALL TO YOUTH TO STUDY HARD, SINCE CHILE DESPERATELY NEEDS  
SKILLED MANPOWER TO KEEP ABREAST OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY, AND  
TO JOIN WITH THE MILITARY IN FORGING A NEW AND BETTER CHILE.  
THOMPSON

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**TAGS:** PINT, CI, (LEIGH, GUSTAVO)  
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